

15 July 2002

RM 10209.....(5250-5400 kHz band)

The following comments are offered for the 5250-5400 kHz band for use by Radio Amateurs.

First, thank you for consideration of the band for our use.

Power: Personally I like lower power, although I do use the legal limit at times. With extensive activity running 10 watts output, I have been forced to make my antenna system as good as possible. While biased, I believe it made me a better and more considerate operator.

I vote for 500 watt limit, although hard to police, and while we hams pride ourselves on 'taking care of our own', this power limit is not enforceable. The legal limit is somewhat self-policing by most of the equipment available, regretfully not entirely.

Extra/General class: This is hard because we need incentives in amateur radio, as in life. But it's tacky for extra class operators, as Rosie and I are, to suggest 'extra only'. So we won't and live with the FCC decision.

Sub-banding: Please, this is a must, and if we have learned anything about history of our bands, we know this. We don't need anything in front of us which divides us as radio amateurs. CW/digital and SSB coexist in the same spectrum with difficulty. Sadly to say, CW is dwindling, however the digital modes are increasing. Therefore, we suggest an even split between narrow and wide band modes, but we will appreciate any consideration of sub-banding.

Again, thank you for this great opportunity to expand our bands, and while I can't promise they will be used as wisely as we all would like, these two operators of long standing and love for the hobby will do our best to promote good operating practices.

Respectfully,

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